

**From:** Gearheard.Mike@epamail.epa.gov  
**Sent time:** 03/24/2008 10:06:28 AM  
**To:** Cope.Ben@epamail.epa.gov  
**Cc:** Croxton.David@epamail.epa.gov; Mann.Laurie@epamail.epa.gov; Mann.Laurie@epamail.epa.gov; palmer.john@epa.gov; Parkin.Richard@epamail.epa.gov  
**Subject:** Re: BOR comments on Columbia Tech Meeting  
**Attachments:** pic04980.gif pic13827.gif BOR4808com1\_BH2.doc

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I know that predation happens, and it probably happens a lot. But why does it happen? There have been cormorants and sea lions around forever. Now it is a big issue because of the way the salmon are required to behave in the managed river. If the river were managed differently (or not managed at all!) the fish would pass downstream and out into the marine environment as they always have. Also, I expect that the 'clouds' of hatchery fish that pass downstream in a pack probably contribute to the density of predation -- as they contribute to the density of commercial fishing. I'm not saying that predation is not an important issue. Rather that it is a symptom of managing the river solely to maximize power generation.

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▼ Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US

**Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US**

03/24/2008 09:14 AM

To

Mike Gearheard/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc

David Croxton/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Laurie Mann/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, palmer.john@epa.gov, Richard Parkin/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject

Re: BOR comments on Columbia Tech Meeting 

Mike, I don't know. It just so happens that there are 2 articles in today's Columbia Basin Bulletin about predation concerns - sea lions and cormorants. Maybe this is the kind of info on the minds of BOR staff. I'll forward the CBB in case you don't subscribe. -BC

Ben Cope, Environmental Engineer  
Office of Environmental Assessment  
EPA Region 10  
Seattle, Washington  
206-553-1442

▼ Mike Gearheard/R10/USEPA/US

**Mike Gearheard/R10/USEPA/US**

03/24/2008 08:27 AM

To

Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc

Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, David Croxton/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Laurie Mann/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Parkin/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, palmer.john@epa.gov

Subject

Re: BOR comments on Columbia Tech Meeting 

Thanks for sharing these BOR comments, Ben. Only question I have concerns the comment on predation. The BOR person states: *Predation is the most critical aspect affecting salmon survival and overshadows temperature and habitat concerns.* Is that true?

Mike Gearheard

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▼ Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US

**Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US**

03/17/2008 09:02 AM

To

Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, David Croxton/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Parkin/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Mike Gearheard/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Laurie Mann/R10/USEPA/US

cc

Subject

BOR comments on Columbia Tech Meeting

EPA Columbia Folk -

See attached for BOR's response to my meeting notes.

The good side is they say "(EPA's draft) summary appears to capture the points of agreement."

Then, true to form, they insist on making the usual sweeping generalizations on the inadequacy of modeling to date, and without committing to improve the models themselves. Note that at the meeting, BOR stated that they would only obtain funding for model improvements if there is a "driver" for that work, like a TMDL. Circular arguments...

-BC

Ben Cope, Environmental Engineer  
Office of Environmental Assessment  
EPA Region 10  
Seattle, Washington  
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----- Forwarded by Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US on 03/17/2008 08:42 AM -----

**"Merlynn Bender"**  
**<MBENDER@do.usbr.gov>**

03/14/2008 01:04 PM

To

Ben Cope/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc

Subject

Fwd: comments on 3/14/08 Col./Snake T TMDL meeting summary

Ben:

See attached.

Merlynn

----- Message from "Merlynn Bender" <MBENDER@do.usbr.gov> on Fri, 14 Mar 2008 14:01:07 -0600 -----

**To:** <ben.cope@epamail.epa.gov>

**cc:** "Bryan Horsburgh" <bhorsburgh@pn.usbr.gov>

**Subject:** comments on 3/14/08 Col./Snake T TMDL meeting summary

Ben:

Attached are some informal comments on the meeting summary. Bryan Horsburgh had input on the attached also.

If you need something more formal on a Reclamation letterhead, please let me know.

If you need to discuss, please give me a call at 303-445-2460.

Thanks

Merlynn Bender (Reclamation, TSC, 86-68220)

*(See attached file: BOR4808com1\_BH2.doc)*